Nippon Times

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SIMLA CONFERENCE FAILS, INDIAN VICEROY ADMITS

Conferees Unable to Agree on Strength and Composition Of Executive Council

According to a New Delhi dated July 14 received in Stockholm, the failure of the Simla Conference was announced today by the Viceroy, Lord Wavell, followed by a London statement in which the British Government expressed regret that the talks within the leading Indian politicians had not reached an agreement.

At Simla the conference met today at 11 a.m. after a fortnight's adjournment. Lord Wavell gave a brief summary of what had happened since June 29. He said his original intention was to get an agreement about the strength and composition of the executive council and had hoped that the only European members of this council would be the Viceroy and the commander-in-chief and that all other posts would be filled by Indians.

After the conference was unable to agree about the council, Lord Wavell said he tried and undertook to produce a solution that would not be worked out from any formula prepared in advance.

Wavell Explains Failure

The viceroy in his statement said:

"I must give the conference an account of what has happened since it adjourned on the 29th of June. As you know, my original contention was that the conference should agree on the strength and composition of the executive council and that thereafter the parties should send me list of names. To these lists, I would, if necessary, had added names of my own and attempted to form on paper an executive council which might be acceptable to His Majesty's Government, myself, and the conference. I intended to discuss my selections with the leaders and finally to put them to the conference.

"Unfortunately, the conference was unable to agree upon the strength and composition of the executive council, and on the 29th of June I undertook, with the approval of the conference, to endeavor to produce a solution not based on any formula agreed in advance.

"I asked the parties to let me have the lists of names and said I would do what I could to produce a solution acceptable to the leaders and to the conference. I received the lists from all parties represented here except from the European group who decided not to send a list and the Muslim League. I was, however, determined that the conference should not fail until I had made every possible effort to bring it to a successful ending.

"I, therefore, made my personal selection including certain Muslim League names, and I have every reason to believe that if these selections had been accepted here they would have been accepted by His Majesty's Government.

"My selection would, I think, have given a balanced and efficient executive council whose composition would have been reasonably fair to all parties. I did not find it possible however to accept the claim of any party in full.

Opposed by Jinnah

"When I explained my solution to Mr. Jinnah, he told me that it was not acceptable to the Muslim League. And he was so decided that I thought it would be useless to continue the discussions. Under the circumstances I did not show my selections as a whole to Mr. Jinnah, and there was no object in showing them to the other leaders. The conference has, therefore, failed.

"Nobody can regret this more than I do myself. I wish to make it clear that the responsibility for the failure is mine. The main idea underlying the conference was mine. If it had succeeded its success would have been attributed to me; and I cannot place the blame for its failure on any of the parties. I ask the party leaders to accept this view and to do all they can to insure that there are no recriminations. It is of utmost importance that this effort to secure an agreement between the parties and communities should not result in a worsening of communal feelings. I ask you all to exercise the greatest possible restraint.

"I have now to consider the next step. I must remind you all that whatever happens the first two of the three tasks mentioned in my broadcast, the prosecution of the war against Japan, and the carrying on of the administration and preparation for postwar development must be performed by the Commonwealth of India for the time being in office. It will be my duty to see that these tasks are performed with the greatest energy that I can impose, and I cannot permit any hindrance to them. I propose to take a little time to consider in what I could best help India after the failure of the conference. You can all help best by refraining from recriminations.

"The war against Japan must be carried on, and law and order must be maintained. And until I see my way more clearly than I do now it may be difficult, perhaps impossible, to suggest any new move. No government can carry on in the prospect of change or dissolution. I have to secure the stability and day to day efficiency of my Government, and it would be impossible to enter upon continuous or even frequent political discussions of this kind.

"Whatever decisions His Majesty's Government may take in the near future must, therefore, in all probability, hold good for some later task. I thank you all for the help you have given me and for the restrained patience and understanding which you have shown. Do not any of you be discouraged for this setback. We shall overcome our difficulties in the end. The future greatness of India is not in doubt."

ELECTIONS IN INDIA URGED

Cripps Makes Proposal Following Failure of Simla Meeting

According to a London report dated July 14 received in Stockholm, Sir Stafford Cripps, who negotiated with the Indian leaders on the British Government's original offer of Dominion status to India, commenting on the failure of the Simla Conference said: "I suggest that the immediate outcome of the present failure of the conference should be the holding of new elections in India.

"Out of these representatives," he stated, "a constituent assembly should be formed to work out a new, free, self-governing constitution for British India or such part of it as is ready to consent to such a constitution."

Another London dispatch said that Secretary of State for India Leopold Amery has telegraphed Viceroy Lord Wavell of the British Government's appreciation for the patience and skill with which the Viceroy conducted the negotiations. The telegram read: "That makes the failure of the conference all the more disappointing."

WAVELL'S PLAN SCORED BY MUSLIM LEAGUE HEAD

Jinnah Avers Agreement to Proposal Means Signing Of Death Warrant

According to a New Delhi report dated July 14 received in Stockholm, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, President of the Muslim League, following the announcement by Viceroy Lord Wavell today of the failure of the Simla Conference, at a press interview this afternoon stated that on a final analysis of the Wavell plan, the Muslim League found it was a snare.

"If they had agreed to what Lord Wavell proposed, they would have signed their death warrant," Mr. Jinnah said. "The Wavell proposals set at naught both the conditions laid by the League for its participation in any interim government—assurances about Pakistan and equality of representation in the executive council. If they had accepted the proposals the Pakistan issue would have been shelved.

"The Congress, on the other hand, would have secured a clear road toward their Hindu national independence of India because the future executive council would have worked as a unitary government. All the forces in such an executive council plus the known policy of the British Government and Lord Wavell's strong inclination toward a united India would have completely jeopardized the Muslim League. In the proposed executive council the Muslims would have been reduced to a minority of one-third because minorities would have voted against them."

Azad Blames Muslims

Meanwhile, at a press conference in Simla this afternoon Maulana Kalam Azad, the Congress President, reviewed the policy followed by the Congress during the Simla conference.

He said the Congress was prepared to accommodate the Muslim League consistently with the national character of the Congress. This, he said, would become clear when the panel submitted by the Congress delegation was officially released. He declared that the failure of the conference was due to the uncompromising attitude of the Muslim League which claimed for its own the exclusive right to nominate all Muslim representatives on the proposed interim government.

At the same time Mr. Azad thought the British Government must share the responsibility for the present communal situation in the Government. "Having known the communal situation to be what it is, the British Government should have set a limit to the extent to which any one party could be allowed to veto the progress of all other parties," he asserted. "A settlement would be possible either now or in the future only if a reasonable and fair basis was set up and firmly maintained."

He said that he was at correspondence with Lord Wavell about the complication of the correspondence between Simla and the Viceroy which will make the Congress position clearer.

The Congress President revealed that during his interviews with Lord Wavell he had received satisfactory replies on all points.

U.S. SENATE TO STUDY BRETTON WOODS PLAN

Taft Opens Up Fight Against 'Device for Draining Savings Out of America'

Another international matter soon to come before the Senate is the Bretton Woods proposal for an International Bank World Currency Stabilization Fund, according to a Washington report dated July 13 received in Lisbon.

Majority leader, Senator Alben Barkley, Democrat of Kentucky, believes this proposal should have come before the Senate in advance of the United Nations Charter's presentation.

The Bretton Woods Plan has been approved by the House of Representatives and by the Senate Committee, the same report added.

Although the Bretton Woods Monetary Agreement will not reach the Senate floor until next Monday, Senator Robert Taft, Republican of Ohio, opened a fight against it with a 5,000-word prepared speech on Thursday. Said Taft in the course of his argument:

"The proposed international bank would become a device for draining the savings out of the United States for the benefit of the rest of the world."

Taft drew an immediate reply from Barkley who said the agreement represented at least a fair chance to avoid some of the mistakes made after the last war.

Those mistakes led to the 1929 depression, said Barkley. The Kentucky statesman then made this observation. "No nation can preserve prosperity for itself if there is chaos in rest of the world."

U.S. DESTROYER DAMAGED

Heavily Hit Off Okinawa Waters by Nippon Special Attack Plane

That the American destroyer, O'Brien, was heavily damaged by an attack of a Japanese special attack plane in the Kerama Group waters in the Okinawa Islands on March 27 and is currently undergoing repairs at the naval base at Mare Island, California, was announced by the American naval authorities on July 12, according to a Domei report from Lisbon dated July 13 quoting a San Francisco report.

The rear of the bridge of the destroyer was heavily damaged but the warship succeeded in reaching home under an escort of another destroyer after undergoing emergency repairs at a front base. It is reported that the casualties of the destroyer totaled 150 men.

New Altitude Record

According to an announcement by the Boeing Aircraft Company of Seattle, it was revealed that a new altitude of approximately 14,490 meters was recently attained by a B-17 (Flying Fortress) during its trial flight, quotes a Seattle report relayed by Domei from Lisbon on July 13. It is reported that this is a new record for altitude marked by a four-engined plane.

Plan Levent Troop Transfer

French, Syrian and Lebanese experts in Beirut are busy working out details for the transfer of the special troops to the government of the Levant, which is scheduled to be carried out within the next six weeks, according to a July 13 Stockholm dispatch quoting Beirut sources. The retention of these troops by the French has been one of the main causes of the grievances voiced by the two Levant States.

TRUMAN REACHES EUROPE

Cruiser Augusta Entered Straits of Dover on July 14

The cruiser Augusta, carrying President Truman and his party to Antwerp, Belgium, en route to the meeting with Churchill and Stalin, entered the Straits of Dover on July 14, according to a Stockholm report. The Augusta was escorted by a British cruiser, six destroyers, and American battleships.

It was also reported that Truman will motor from Antwerp to Brussels and then board his plane to Potsdam.

Berlin reports that the first important personages, who are unidentified, have arrived in two secret areas a few miles from the capital preparatory to the meeting.

Meanwhile, at Hendaye, Churchill told a correspondent that he has had a good holiday undisturbed by political worries. He was scheduled to leave Hendaye Sunday morning.

CZECHOSLOVAKIAN STAND IS ANNOUNCED BY BENES

Will Ask Changes in Frontiers And Transfer of 2,000,000 Germans From Territory

According to a Lisbon dispatch on July 15, President Edouard Benes of Czechoslovakia declared in a statement issued in Prague in which he outlined Czechoslovakia's policy, that his country will be free and independent and equally friendly with Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union.

Benes also stated that about 2,000,000 Germans are to be transferred from Czech soil.

Moreover, Czechoslovakia, he said, is to ask at the peace conference for various small changes in her northern frontiers, particularly in the Glatz and Upper Silesia district which are said to be populated by Czechs.

President Benes, in an interview with a news agency correspondent also disclosed that Czechoslovakia intends with the consent of the three Big Powers to transfer the German minority population. Events have shown, he said, that a minority statute, as incorporated in peace treaties after the last war will not work, especially when the minorities belong to powerful neighbors like Germany.

The president said he was convinced that his country would be the first in Central Europe to recover from six years of Nazi occupation. He disclosed that the Russians were already leaving the interior of the country and would soon be stationed along the pre-Munich frontier. United States troops will also withdraw.

Finally, President Benes declared that Czechoslovakia wanted to have the closest possible ties with the British Government and people to whom he will always be grateful.

BRITISH CASUALTIES HIGH

Total 1,427,634 Men Since War Outbreak, London Reveals

The total British casualties since the outbreak of war were published as 1,427,634 men by the British Ministry of Information on July 12, according to a London report relayed by Domei from Stockholm.

Following are the details of the casualties: dead, 532,233; wounded, 336,029; and missing, 559,372 men.

Casualties of each country in the British Dominion are: England, 750,338; Canada, 101,008; Australia, 92,211; New Zealand 39,783; Union of South Africa, 36,783; India, 177,316; and the Colonies, 36,376 men.

Seamen casualties (not included among the casualties of each country) are 45,215 of whom 38,867 men were killed in action, while casualties of the British Home Guards (not included among the casualties of each country) were 1,763 men, and others, 146,842 men.

Truman's Assistant Quits

The White House announced on July 12 that President Harry Truman had accepted the resignation of James M. Barnes, Administrative Assistant to the President, according to a July 12 Domei dispatch from Lisbon quoting a Washington report.

SOONG LEAVES MOSCOW

Talks With Stalin Interrupted by Big Three Conference

The talks between Premier Josef Stalin and Dr. T. V. Soong, President of the Chungking Executive Yuan, have been interrupted as the Soviet Premier and Foreign Commissar Molotov are leaving Moscow for the Big Three Conference, a communique from Moscow revealed on July 14, according to a Stockholm report.

Meanwhile, Soong has left Moscow for Chungking, the report stated, adding that the talks will be resumed in the near future.

The communique said that the talks, which were aimed at improving Soviet-Chinese relations, were held in a friendly atmosphere and revealed a broad and mutual understanding.

On July 13, the report further stated, a dinner was given in honor of Soong by Premier Stalin.

SALE OF VICTORY BONDS WILL COMMENCE MONDAY

158 Million Yen Already Subscribed of Total of 200 Million Yen of Debentures

Victory debentures will be on sale for a month beginning Monday to acquire funds to finance the war and to absorb surplus purchasing power.

Regardless of the fact that such an attempt is the first of its kind to be carried out in Japan Proper, all banks and stores which are receiving subscriptions for the purchase of these debentures are enjoying great prosperity. Subscriptions up to end of June totaled ¥158,700,000. Two hundred million yen worth of victory debentures will be sold this time.

The Hypothec Bank of Japan is the seller of these debentures. Sale profits will all be calculated into the extraordinary military special account. The method of sale is for 20 million victory debentures of a face value of 10-yen to be issued. One hundred thousand debentures will constitute one group, which in turn, will total 200 groups.

There will be one first class prize of ¥100,000, nine second class prizes of ¥10,000 each, 90 third class prizes of ¥1,000 each, 900 fourth class prizes of ¥50 each and 19,000 fifth class prizes of ¥10 each. This means that there will be 20,000 lucky tickets in one group from the first to fifth prize or one lucky debenture out of every five. The numbers of the lucky debentures will be chosen on August 25 while prizes will be paid out in cash at the end of August.

JAPAN-CHINA BODY FORMED

Aims to Promote Friendly Relations Between 2 Countries

On the merger of the Japan-China Scientific Association and other oranizations interested in the promotion of friendly relations between Japan and China, the Japan-China Association was formally organized at the Kazan Hall at 3:30 p.m. on July 12.

The ceremony of opening the association was attended among others by Prime Minister Admiral Baron Kantaro Suzuki, Greater East Asiatic Affairs Minister Shigenori Togo, Chinese Charge d'Affaires Wang, and Prince Fumimaro Konoye.

An address by Prince Konoye, who is president of the association, opened the ceremony.

Subsequently, Tsubogami, chief director of the association, reported the circumstances of the establishment of the organization. Then, Greater East Asiatic Affairs Minister Togo and Charge d'Affaires Wang gave congratulatory addresses.

The association will be concerned with the promotion of friendship between Japan and China in accordance with the principle of the Joint Declaration of Greater East Asia. It will show special interest in the interchange of culture between the two countries and the welfare of Chinese studying in Japan.

Mexican Foreign Chief Quits

Mexican Foreign Minister Ezequ'el Padilla handed in his resignation on July 10, which was accepted by President Manuel A. Camacho, says a Domei Lisbon dispatch quoting a Mexico City report.

'BIG THREE' TO DISCUSS 8 SUBJECTS AT POTSDAM

Italy's Recognition as Member of United Nations Included in Discussion

According to a London report dated July 13 received in Stockholm, the Associated Press quoting a reliable diplomatic spokesman in London said today that there are at least eight major subjects to be discussed by the "Big Three" leaders at the forthcoming Potsdam meeting.

Outlining briefly, they are: (1) coordination of Allied activities in the occupation of Germany; (2) recognition of Italy as a member of the United Nations; (3) Anglo-American request to the Soviets to open eastern Europe to newspapermen and observers; (4) participation in any future discussion of the control of the Dardanelles; (5) an enormous problem of territorial changes; (6) general discussions regarding the progress in punishing war criminals; (7) the possibility of establishing an unified police force throughout Europe; and (8) the possibility of hastening the general stabilization of Europe by giving the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration greater power.

Meanwhile, ship dispatches from the U.S. cruiser Augusta carrying President Truman and his party said that the President will enter Antwerp on Sunday and plans to proceed to Berlin without a previous conference with Prime Minister Churchill, now vacationing in France. This evidently is intended to assure Premier Stalin that there will be no independent Anglo-American agreement prior to the "Big Three" conference.

Another report said that General Dwight Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces in Europe, will meet Truman in Antwerp on Sunday and fly with him to Berlin.

Truman will arrive in Berlin at approximately the same time as the British Prime Minister and Marshal Stalin. The American President and his party will be housed inside what is now being called in Berlin as "The Compound' because it is isolated and under guard of three nations. There will be one group of buildings for each delegation and one central meeting place for the principal members of the conference. Tanks, guns and even minefields will be placed to prevent interference and Russian, British and American soldiers will preserve international order.

Correspondents said that there will be very little news from the conference until it ends for the Russians want it that way and the British are playing along with the Soviet authorities.

GREAT PURGE IN ITALY

40,000 Reported in Prisons in North; Many Murdered

A great purge is going on in Italy and the prisons in the north are at present crammed with more than 40,000 people, most of them arrested by the partisans in the early days of the "liberation," according to a London dispatch to Lisbon. Special courts set up to try them had already heard 700 cases, and their decisions include 70 death sentences, according to a dispatch by BBC correspondent John Nixon from Rome. Before these courts were organized, Nixon said, about 10,000 suspected Fascists in Italy were killed without any legal reason and sometimes without any trial at all. These killings have not stopped altogether. In the past three weeks, organized bands have broken into prisons and murdered about 120 people awaiting trial. Nixon said the man who commit the murders do so because they are dissatisfied with what they consider the slowness of ordinary methods of justice in dealing with Fascist criminals.

Italy Declares War

According to a Lisbon dispatch on July 15, it was announced officially in Rome that Italy had declared war on Japan effective at midnight. A similar announcement was made in Washington at the Italian Embassy.

Venezuela Cabinet Resigns

According to a Lisbon dispatch on July 15, the cabinet of Venezuela has resigned in order, it is said, to give the President, Isaias Medina Angarita, freedom in effecting several changes. It is said that no government crisis was involved.

ENEMY DESTROYER SUNK

Hit by Japanese Fliers in Night Attack Off Balik Papan

Special to the Nippon Times

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC BASE, July 14.—In a night attack against an enemy fleet off Balik Papan on July 10, a Japanese Air Unit sank one destroyer.

Meanwhile, vigorous Japanese counteraction is being continued in the Balik Papan area. In a new clash with an enemy force, the Japanese troops blasted one tank and killed more than 150 enemy soldiers who were beating a retreat.

Ternate Enemy Encircled

Special to the Nippon Times

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC BASE, July 14.—Japanese Garrison Forces on Ternate have encircled the enemy troops in the northern part of the island. On July 12, the Japanese increased their pressure killing or wounding more than 300 enemy troops

Okinawa Enemy Raided

Special to the Nippon Times

FRONT BASE, July 14.—Japanese Air Units surprise-attacked the enemy forces on the main Okinawa Island as well as in the sea area around the same island early this morning and achieved considerable battle results.

NEW OFFENSIVE STARTED BY OUR FORCES IN BURMA

Drive Forward to Central Plain Area and Inflict Heavy Blows on the Enemy

By a Member of the Press Corps

ADVANCE BASE IN BURMA, July 13.—The Japanese Forces in Burma, which had crossed the Sittang River under a downpour of rain, launched a new offensive, pushing their drive forward to the central plain area and inflicting heavy blows on the enemy. At present they are continuing their onrush.

The Japanese vanguards advanced to the railway line between Rangoon and Mandalay early on the morning of July 11 and seized several pivotal points. Other Units captured a point near the Sittang Canal lockgate. Pursuing the fleeing enemy remnants, the Japanese are now expanding their battle results.

Other crack units of the Japanese Forces, which had crossed the Sittang River in the north, are advancing westward, smashing the enemy forces operating nearby.

Reporting on the new Japanese drive, the enemy said that it was a great offensive with more Japanese reinforcements crossing the river in succession. The enemy further said that his forces, which were suffering heavy bleeding, were gradually retreating from the front.

Admits Japanese Action

According to a Domei dispatch from Lisbon dated July 13, the following announcement was issued on Friday by the front line headquarters of the British-Indian Army in Burma.

The Japanese troops in the bend sector of the Sittang River in Burma are gradually becoming active. It is apparent that the Japanese are being assembled at Myit-cho, 36 kilometers northeast of Pegu.

VOULGARIS DENIES RIFT

Blasts Reports of Frontier Clash Between Greece, Yugoslavia

According to an Athens report dated July 13 received in Zurich, Greek Prime Minister Admiral Peros Voulgaris today broadcast a denial that there had been any incidents on the Greek-Yugoslav frontier and added that the reports had been given out to create an atmosphere of unrest.

It will be recalled that a few days ago Yugoslav Premier Marshal Joseph "Tito" Brozovitch asserted that the people in Macedonia were being oppressed by reactionaries and had accused the Greeks of firing across the frontier.

Besides denying these accusations, Voulgaris said that a spirit of readjustment must prevail and that the judicial operations of the state must not be used for outright personal revenge or party demonstrations. He said that the Greek Government would continue to purge the country of collaborators and anti-democratic elements.

Irish Unionists in Power

The general election results in Northern Ireland were confirmed on July 11, and by this the former governing party, the Unionists, headed by Sir Basil Brook, is again in power, says a Domei dispatch from Lisbon.

ENEMY WARSHIPS BOMBARD NORTHEASTERN DISTRICT

Area in Vicinity of Kamaishi Is Attacked as Carrier Borne Planes Raid Tohoku

In conjunction with the series of raids made by carrier planes against Japanese air bases and harbor facilities in the Tohoku district and the southern part of Hokkaido early Saturday morning, enemy warcraft bombarded the area near Kamaishi from noon the same day, the Imperial Headquarters announced in its communique issued at 4:20 p.m. on Saturday.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE

4:20 p.m. July 14

"1. Enemy carrier-borne planes attacked our air bases and harbors in the Tohoku district and in the southern part of Hokkaido in several waves from the early morning of July 14.

"2. In conjunction with the said attack, a part of the enemy warcraft bombarded the area in the vicinity of Kamaishi."

Hakodate, Other Cities Hit

About 20 B-29's and an aggregate total of about 300 carrier planes from enemy task forces bombed and strafed Japanese military establishments, sea and land air force facilities as well as the cities of Hakodate, Muroran, Obihiro and Kushiro for about seven hours from early Saturday morning, the Northern Army District Headquarters announced at noon the same day.

It was also revealed that damage is now under investigation but it is believed to be negligible. War results known up to the present are four enemy planes shot down and one damaged.

The announcement follows:

"1. In waves, B-29 bombers and carrier planes from enemy task forces attacked military establishments, sea and land air facilities as well as the cities of Hakodate, Muroran, Obihiro and Kushiro with explosive and incendiary bombs as well as with machine-guns for about seven hours from early morning of July 14.

"2. About 20 B-29 bombers and an aggregate total of about 300 carrier planes participated in the raid.

"3. Damage is now under investigation but is believed to be negligible.

"4. The battle results known up to the present were four planes shot down and one damaged."

Several hundred enemy carrier planes from a task force raided Aomori Prefecture at [illegible] a.m., Saturday. The enemy planes mainly invaded Shimokita Peninsula, Ominato, Misawa, Hachinohe and Mutsu Bay where they machine-gunned military facilities besides strafing trains, transports, schooners, fishing boats and civilian dwellings.

Some damage was inflicted on our side. A transport engaged four Grumman planes in a battle and succeeded in downing two.

Ten B-29's penetrated into the North Kyushu sector from the Bungo Strait around 12 a.m., Saturday, and dropped mines in the Kanmon sector for about one hour.

Another group of B-29's, numbering 12, dropped mines in the sea off southern Chosen and in Karatsu and Hakata bays. Japanese Anti-Air Raid Forces immediately intercepted the B-29's and succeeded in downing one (unascertained) besides damaging another.

Mundeleer Warns Belgians

According to a Brussels report dated July 13 relayed to Stockholm, Belgian Minister for National Defense Leo Mundeleer today issued an order forbidding all demonstrations and banning assemblies of more than four people at a time. The order is to be applied to the whole of Belgium.

New Argentine Embassy

The Argentine Government on Friday announced the creation of an Argentine Embassy in Chungking, a Buenos Aires dispatch to Lisbon said.

France Holding Election

According to a Paris report dated July 13 received in Lisbon, France will hold its first general election since prewar years on October [illegible]

London Reconstruction [illegible]

The plan for the reconstruction of London which in the [illegible] may cost £300,000,000 is expected to be adopted at the [illegible] London Council [illegible] it is disclosed in a London dispatch to Lisbon. The plan of the city was worked out in 1943 by Prof. [illegible]

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America's Real Aim

"To achieve peace, we must make and keep the Japanese race powerless. First, we must educate the Japanese out of Shintoism and the next is to take proper steps with Japan's military leaders."

Such is the statement of Admiral William F. Halsey, commander of the United States naval forces operating in the Okinawa area, in a recent number of the magazine Collier's. While it might appear hardly worthwhile to consider seriously the idiotic words of an ignorant and rash American admiral, nevertheless this statement should be noted as an indication of the typical American attitude of venomous animosity toward Japan.

The Americans are claiming that the present war is a war for freedom, and the late President Roosevelt widely proclaimed the "Four Freedoms" for the consumption of the world public. Accordingly, freedom of religious belief should be a basic tenet of the Americans. Yet, the Americans are now manifesting an atrocious unreasonableness in proposing to destroy Shintoism, which constitutes the spiritual foundation of the Japanese race. Evidently because the Americans have been astounded by the gallant deeds of the heroes of our Special Attack Corps, whose readiness to die for the sake of the Empire is based on their religious devotion to Shintoism, these Americans are now anxious to destroy this religion.

Halsey may be pitied for mistaking Shintoism for a doctrine which can be "educated" out of the Japanese people, but neither he nor any American can be excused for being so impudent as to propose the destruction of our religion which has existed for more than 2,600 years and which constitutes the supreme object of our racial devotion. The effacement of such a spiritual foundation of the race would amount to the effacement of the race itself.

President Truman has been trying to alienate the Japanese people from their military leaders by declaring that unconditional surrender by Japan would not mean the effacement or enslavement of the Japanese race. The effacement of Shintoism, however, means the effacement of the Japanese race, and that is what Americans like Admiral Halsey are threatening, directly belying the blandishments of President Truman. Not confining himself to threats, Admiral Halsey has been trying to translate his threats into actuality by bombing our most sacred Shinto shrines, including the Grand Shrine of Ise, hoping thus to strike terror into the hearts of the Japanese masses. But he has only succeeded in arousng our people to a greater and more determined hostility than ever against the American enemy whose vandalistic acts surpass the bounds of imagination. Little does Halsey seem to realize that his tactics have produced just the opposite effect from that which he desires.

Halsey's outrageous proposal to destroy Shintoism no doubt arises from his baffled resentment over the tremendous losses which the Japanese defenders have inflicted upon his forces in the bitter fighting in the Pacific area, particularly at Yiojima and Okinawa where the enemy was forced to make unprecedentedly bloody sacrifices. The heroic resistance of the Imperial Forces have shaken the enemy's composure and has forced him to expose his beastly ruthlessness. As the military situation increases in severity, the enemy can be expected to resort to increasing excesses of barbarity. In his frantic effort to terminate the war quickly so as to cut his losses, he will seize every opportunity to intimidate and plot against our people.

Dismayed by the fact that, as the fighting approaches closer to the Japanese mainland, Japan will enjoy the great advantages of a shortened supply line and an impregnable defense structure, the enemy leaders are resorting to every conceivable means to arouse the fighting morale of their people by instigating the passions of beastly hatred against the Japanese race. Halsey's statement and actions are a clear reflection of this attitude.

At the same time, the more subtle of the American leaders are trying to break down the determined spirit of the Japanese people by pretending that submission to the American demands will not prove so onerous to the Japanese people. Some American scholars, under the guise of academic rationality and reasonable, even pretend to argue that a severe treatment of Japan would not be to the interest of the United States. Such arguments are designed to support President Truman's efforts to weaken the fighting will of the Japanese people through deceptive blandishments.

But how can such arguments be trusted when men like Admiral Halsey breathe a doctrine of blind hate and destruction and proceed to carry out their doctrine in terror raids upon the Japanese people? Whatever the American leaders may say in their propaganda directed toward the Japanese people, the actions of men like Halsey in arousing the passions of hatred and intolerance against the Japanese among the American masses can only mean that the mass mind of America will demand the destruction of the Japanese people. The increasing severity of the war will inevitably result in an increasing severity of America's demands upon Japan. It must be assumed that the real aim of the Americans is to efface the Japanese race from the face of the earth, and propagandistic statements to the contrary must be regarded as a part of a sinister plot to dupe the Japanese.

In the face of Admiral Halsey's demand for the destruction of Shintoism, it must be assumed that the destruction of the Japanese race is the ultimate aim of the United States. The only possible response to such an attitude on the part of the Americans is the heightening of our determination to carry on this sacred war to a successful termination whatever may be the cost involved. The Japanese people well understand what they must do. Admiral Halsey, by clearly betraying the real American attitude, has only succeeded in strengthening more than ever the iron resolve of the Japanese nation to resist to the finish.

Just the Proprietor

A long queue waited outside the shop. On the door was a notice: "Opening at 10 a.m."

They waited patiently. But there were mutterings of indignation as a little old man tried to insert himself at the head of the queue. He was told to get out of that.

He tried again lower down, with the same result.

"All right, then," he said. "I shan't open the shop" and walked away.

Sh-h-h

"And understand, my young man, you can't sleep in my class."

"Well, sir, I could if you'd talk a bit lower."

Nonchalance

A fellow got on the bus with a hundred-pound bomb under his arm and sat down.

"What's that you've got on your lap?" asked the conductor.

"It's a delayed action bomb I'm taking to the police station," came the answer.

"Lumme," said the conductor, "you don't want to carry a thing like that on your lap. Put it under the seat."

Advice to Women

Before marriage, a man yearns for a woman. After marriage, the "y" is silent.

A Year Ago Today

July 16, 1944

The capture of Grodno was announced by Stalin's Headquarters. Crack Units of our South China Army completely occupied Lishan.

WAR ECONOMY ON THE CONTINENT

Great Credit Due North China For Assistance

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

V

The labor question on the continent was hitherto confined to the question of how to bring in those abundant coolies from North China and make them stay. The situation, however, has changed since Manchoukuo adopted its first five-year industrial plan under which it required the importation of a great number of immigrants so as to push its great construction work. Besides this, the development of natural resources carried on in both North China and Mengchiang had the effect of draining the labor supply in North China, thereby causing the labor problem on the continent to become acute. Even assuring the labor for its mining enterprise has come to face some difficulty. Consequently any outflow of labor from this sector, such as to Mengchiang and Manchoukuo, has become a thing of uncertainty. Moreover the working men prefer to stay in North China where they can get a high wage, instead of going out to Manchoukuo or Mengchiang. Aside from this inducement, they can return to their own farms to work during the harvest season. From these reasons the number of outgoing labor from North China every year has been decreasing, which, as a matter of fact, even threatens to affect the development work in other sectors.

It has become necessary, therefore, for the industrialists in other areas to hit upon the best plan of maintaining their labor supply, and this is being done individually. In Manchoukuo, for instance, the authorities concerned are trying to keep the transient North China laborers to stay on, and on this premise they are working out different feasible schemes. But in the light of the record of such floating labor taken for the last one year, there are more returning home than coming in. In order to discourage this the authorities have caused a law to be enacted under which the laborers are permitted to send money home.

As has been stated, the number of incoming labor from North China is on the decrease, which is caused by several reasons including a greater demand for labor needed in the industrial development work in North China, accompanied with the rise of wages there, a big difference of commodity prices between Manchoukuo and North China, the enforcement of an exchange control by the Manchoukuo Government, and the restriction placed on outgoing money either transmitted or carried by the returning working men themselves. In the face of this tendency, Manchoukuo, in order to help the laborers in the transmission of their money adopted a regulation which went into effect in January of this year. Provided thereunder are the following:

1. Those who have stayed in Manchoukuo for more than three months under a contract to work on a specified job will receive a monetary aid twice the amount of their monthly transmission to their home;

2. Those who have stayed more than six months in the like manner will receive three times; and

3. This aid will be calculated on the basis of the laborer's working ability on the job.

Under this arrangement, if the laborer who has worked for more than six months is sending home 50 yen a month, he will receive a help of 150 yen, which put together will amount to 200 yen that he can transmit to his home.

However, with so much uncertainty in its dependence on the transient North China labor, especially when its industry was in urgent need of development, Manchoukuo decided on the plan of supplying its own labor at home. The adoption of the New Labor Security Act in 1941 was for this purpose. From that time on its labor administration has been carried out under this act. To cope with its unprecedented activity in the development of its mining industry, her domestic mobilization of labor has been yearly stressed, so much so that the ratio of such volunteer labor has been on a remarkably rapid rise.

Particularly, this year, when we are all faced with an impending decisive battle, more importance is attached to the working of Manchoukuo's labor mobilization plan. What Manchoukuo is doing in this regard is to eliminate the element of uncertainty of depending upon the labor supply from North China and to rely on the main upon the domestic supply. In this premise, the Manchoukuo Government is now undertaking the selection of mobile labor by looking into each case and allotting such labor to the right jobs. Consequently the laborers themselves are but to rely on this government method, and are perfectly satisfied.

Even with the labor question in North China itself there exist some serious bottlenecks which tend to undermine the development of war resources. The trouble mainly comes from an unprecedented industrial development there, which demands a huge labor supply. However, the laborers can only devote their time partly to industry as they must return to their farms to attend during the harvest and other busy seasons. This being characteristic with the North China coolies, this was why they went to Manchoukuo to work, forced to do so from the difficulty of living conditions on their farms. So it was that the better the crop on their farms in North China the greater the number in coolies who returned from Manchoukuo to attend to their farm work.

Such being the case,—the state of a part-agricultural and a part-industrial labor condition,—North China itself had to suffer not a little from this cause in its development of natural resources. So it came to pass that even here which was known to be the home of industrial labor, a labor act was put into force early last year, so as to be in line with the setting up of a war-time labor mobilization structure as elsewhere. The passing of this act was the result of conferences held between the North China Labor Association and other affiliated bodies. It was aimed to set up a labor structure in a thoroughgoing and systematic manner, so as to apportion such labor without any hitch among the important industries inside as well as outside the country.

In the meantime, the authorities concerned had attended to the enforcement of the act in each hsien, while over labor they had to exercise their supervsiory power.

But the trouble did not end with the enforcement of such a rule, as was witnessed during the last harvest season when the amount of labor showed quite a low mark. So it developed that with the administrative power of North China the authorities came to adopt another act under the title of "Administrative Contribution of Labor," aiming at an all-out contribution of labor from the four provinces of North China. However acute was the labor question when the act was passed, it settled down when the idle farm season arrived, showing the innate characteristic of labor in North China. But the busy farm season is coming again this year, and it would be of interest to watch the development of the labor question at that time.

Always Had Shortage

Now about Mengchiang, this country has always experienced a labor shortage due to her sparse population. Her industrial construction centering on her mining industry had been carried on with labor coming from North China. But there has been a decrease in such incoming labor since last year. At present she is forced to rely upon volunteer labor being contributed by each hsien of her domain.

Thus while there is a variance in degree, it is a fact that all of these sectors on the continent have come to enforce the so-called administrative labor contribution. And in this connection, unexpectedly good results attained by the Manchoukuo volunteer corps may be considered as a good indication suggestive of a satisfactory solution of the labor problem on the continent.

Transfer of Technical Materials

Compared with the conditions existing in Japan the industrial power of both Manchoukuo and China has much more elasticity and practicability. By putting in a comparatively little technical material results two to three times that in Japan have been attained. In view of this, it seems to be of momentous importance to transfer to the continent without any delay the technical materials needed for the development and exploitation of continental resources, so as to raise the composite productive strength of Japan, Manchoukuo and China.

In doing this we must keep our eyes on the attainment of maximum results by looking into the existing industrial conditions obtaining there. Particular attention must be paid to the existing bottle-neck on transportation, and in order to confine the trouble in shipments to a minimum we must speed up the production of iron, steel and light metals on the continent.

Now about iron and steel production, Manchoukuo has possibilities of quickly increasing her production as she is in possession of the necessary technique and experience. But from the standpoint of raw materials and labor, North China is favored by natural conditions. And as has been stated, the iron and steel industries have gained much headway not only in Manchoukuo but also in several other regions in China, and when the transfer is made of Japanese technical experts and a part of the necessary materials to the continent, we can expect tremendous progress in this field.

(To Be Continued)

ON THE PHILIPPINES FRONT

Relentless Battle Being Waged By Japanese Forces

Editor's Note: In an article contributed to a recent issue of the Shukan Mainichi, Mr. Hedeo Kon, member of the Army Press Section, who recently returned from the Philippine front, describes the progress of fighting in that area.

With the growing intensity of the operations in Leyte and Mindoro last autumn, the American enemy began to show his increased fighting spirit indicating his ambition to make his advance towards Luzon Island.

It was clear at that time that the enemy, who had thrown such a vast amount of men into the Leyte battle, would pour forth a still greater amount of fighting force into the Luzon campaign. On the other hand, it was apparent that our forces in the Luzon sector had difficulty in getting fresh reinforcements of men and supplies after having exhausted a great amount of fighting power in the Leyte operations. Our headquarters in Luzon had to make plans to meet the coming invasion with their restricted number of men. They realized the great difficulty of the approaching battle since the enemy had gained control of the sea and the air.

Luzon Island being spacious, there was a possibility of a large-scale open battle with the enemy forces. Our forces being large, such a possibility was all the greater. But we had this disadvantage: our entire air force had been exhausted. Under such circumstances, it was realized by our high command that the best policy was to let the enemy make his intended landing operations and of fighting his forces after having actually ascertained his numerical strength. Thus, the main forces of Japan withdrew to northern and southeastern Luzon with the exception of a small portion in the Manila plain. The Americans then built military positions in these regions by utilizing their natural barriers. But due to the gallant fighting put up by the Japanese garrison forces in Manila, the enemy had to pay dearly in the street fighting which did not suit them because of the tenacity of the Japanese forces.

After withdrawing into the interior of the mountains, our main forces constructed their defense establishments day and night in anticipation of enemy attacks. The enemy, who held air control, flew over every town and village in the neighborhood and burnt them down with incendiary bombs. All the villages that lie scattered in the vast plains along the Cagayan River were completely demolished by the enemy's fire. The enemy continued to supply both aircraft and fuel to their new air bases in Luzon which he had occupied. The number of the enemy planes increased every day. Hostile planes swarmed over the Japanese main forces. Our main forces faced scarcity in food provisions since they were concentrated within a mountaneous district. Although the plains along the Cagayan River had been known as the granary of Luzon because of their extreme fecundity, they were very sparsely populated, and their crops were not sufficient to sustain a big army in addition to the needs of the native inhabitants. There was immediate need to purchase cereals from the native farmers who had just reaped their harvest. Our soldiers tilled the soil in order to sow corn seeds and plant potato sprouts. Our army began a life of fighting and of farming at the same time in order to maintain their own food supply.

Although the areas along the Cagayen River were fertile and spacious, the mountainous region of Bagio faced a difficult food problem. We, therefore, decided to send cereals to our forces over steep precipices. It took soldiers 11 days to reach their destination and we had to construct new roads for ox carts, on which the cereals were conveyed. After much privations, the transportation of rice and other cereals began. As the enemy planes hovered overhead during the day time, our suppliers had to travel only during the night. And while travelling at night they were often attacked by bandits.

The Japanese forces in the mountain fastness had to carry out three tasks, namely, to produce food provisions, to buy them from the Filipino farmers and to transport food provisions from one place to another. But there was still another task, namely, to fight the Filipino bandits who were highly rampant. The Filipino forces, who were driven to Bataan Peninsula together with the American army, were released on their taking the pledge to cooperate with the construction of a Greater East Asia common prosperity region and have been industriously working for some time in their various fields of endeavor. But almost imperceptibly they came to communicate with the American enemy whose hand has now turned against our Imperial forces. These former Filipino soldiers are now carrying on guerilla warfare as bandits in cooperation with the American army. They recovered the power they possessed during the period of the American-Filipino joint forces. Until last summer these bandits had been receiving supplies of weapons and ammunitions from American submarines but now they get their supplies from American aeroplanes which drop parachute-borne supplies. Their equipment has become greatly improved and sometimes American officers descend from their planes to take command of these bandits. Not only do these bandits oppose our forces in open hostility but they also supply the American enemy with information about the movements of our forces. Thus, they are now a formidable machinery of espionage for the American forces in Luzon.

As they live in mountain fastnesses, it is difficult for them to get supplies from the air with any degree of certainty but usually inhabitants in the neighborhood secretly keep supplies for the bandits. It is extremely difficult for our sentinels to find such supplies dropped from the enemy planes. Even children and women are communicating with these bandits in sending them their supplies. But the so-called good citizens of the mountain region are friendly towards both our forces and to the bandits. Since the mountain region is in the grip of our forces, these Filipinos cannot act hostilely to them. Nor can we treat them as enemies since we must buy their crops and seek their cooperation in planting rice with us, even though we know that some of them are in actual communication with the bandits. All this makes the present campaign in Luzon extremely difficult.

Our forces have already succeeded in establishing formidable positions upon the steep mountain roads which are flanked by deep ravines and precipices. Caves dug over such mountain fastnesses would be absolutely safe from enemy air attacks or long-range bombardment.

The enemy with his vaunted material power has been unable to penetrate into the mountain pass. Although General MacArthur seems to have landed in Manila, he has only succeeded in seizing that city and its vicinity. More than 100,000 of his forces have been destroyed since their landing but the losses of our own Japanese army have been negligible. If the enemy should show an opening our forces would quickly seize it and descend from their mountain positions. Thus, MacArthur cannot sleep at ease even in Manila, for up in the mountain there is General Yamashita's dare devils awaiting an opportune moment to strike at the American army.

(To Be Continued)

THE JAPANESE FAMILY SYSTEM

Spirit of Loyalty Is Nurtured in the Home

(By A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR)

III

I am not indulging in an idle laudation of the great reform effected by our people in the early stage of the Meiji Era without bloodshed. But what is really wonderful is the indefatigable endeavors our people have been making since that time. The warrior class who had been satisfied with the fiefs given it under the feudal system became poverty-stricken with the administrative change that was brought about by the Restoration. But the former samurai remained absolutely peaceful and never even attempted any uprising on this account. They bore their inevitable fate with perfect resignation and silence. This was because our people had undergone a wonderful moral discipline for over several thousand years. Our youths then undertook new studies. They endeavored to understand the lectures given in alien tongues by the German teachers of Occidental medicine and learned a new art of medicine. Our youths also learned law, economy and sciences from their Western teachers similarly and digested them as their own within only a half-century.

Nor was such heroic endeavors limited to our people of the early stages of the Meiji Era. There is scarcely a period in the history of the Japanese nation in which similar strenuous efforts and silent endeavors under most difficult strain were not shown by our people. I say this because I believe that the school of this moral discipline is our household. However, no one will probably consider the Japanese domestic life as a place of rigorous moral training. Nowdays newspapers are full of heroic deeds of our gallant and loyal officers and men with the growing severity of the war situation and it is our Japanese home that brought up these heroes. Let us remember how strenuously their fathers worked and how patiently their mothers bore the difficulty of living in their self-sacrifice in bringing up their children. This unspoken training by the parents is the vital cause of their unmatched heroism in battle. The self-sacrificing spirit of mothers is best shown in their daily and unassumed life rather than in their formal teaching.

Western Individualism

In the case of the Occidental home, which is based only on affection, attempt is made to embrace the rise of individualism among its members by means of effection and when this attempt fails, they separate from one another. The members of the Japanese family do not regard their breaking up so simply as do the Westerners. Such a dispersion is really a tragedy and in the case of the Japanese family it does not happen by a simple friction or sentimental clash among its members. Such a tragedy is liable to happen due to some external force, but its suffering is borne in the spirit of absolute obedience which is an essence of the family system; and the total collapse of the family itself is usually prevented by the self-sacrificing spirit of the mother, who never shows her private sentiment. Outward separation may take place but mental and blood ties are kept up. Readers are asked to consider if their mothers ever demanded pleasure for themselves in their lives. The readers will recall that their mothers gave all nice things to their children, being themselves satisfied with unpalatable food. Moreover, their duties at home are manifold and tiresome. They rise early and stay up till late. They have no time for their own rest and comforts but devote their entire time for the sake of their children. They spend a sleepless night, giving milk to their babies and without complaining in the least under the most difficult circumstances. In their patient obedience to the father and mother-in-law, the wife spends her life-energy in bringing up her children. Where can we find such a great force which is shown by mothers in this country in shouldering the domestic affairs of the family? One will know that behind the galliant and heroic Japanese soliders lie their mothers. The household with such parents is the veritable protector and shield of the Empire and the very source of our unexcelled and beautiful social customs. This household has remained in its essence from the very foundation of our State.

Those philosophers who love logic and argument may well study the inherent virtues of our household instead of spending their time in the study of occidental metaphysics and ethics.

By caressing the household pillars black with tradition and history and by sitting by the family hearth one can feel grateful for the tradi of the household. Some have wailed that the introduction of Occidental thought and institutions since the Meiji Era has injured the Japanese spirit and our grand social customs, but such worry is absolutely unfounded. Such people do not examine the essence of our family system. It is true that ideas and things Western have made their inroads into our daily lives but we have been utilizing them merely as tools. If the American enemy produces 1,000 airplanes per day, we shall produce a similar number. But it is our children that utilize this military weapon which was invented by the Occidentals—children who have descended from the ancestors in dim antiquity. So long as we eat rice, live in a wooden house and speak our native language, our souls will never be lost.

(End)

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